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KISSINGER-ROGERS

WASHINGTON (AP)-A WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL TODAY DENIED THAT HENRY A. KISSINGER IS THE SOURCE OF REPORTS THAT HE WILL REPLACE WILLIAM P. ROGERS AS SECRETARY OF STATE.

"IT JUST ISN'T TRUE," THE OFFICIAL SAID WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON A NEW STORY WRITTEN BY KEYES BEECH OF THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS FROM TOKYO WHERE ROGERS IS ATTENDING A U.S.-JAPAN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE. THE OFFICIAL ALSO DESCRIBED AS UNTRUE THE SUGGESTION THAT KISSINGER IS TRYING TO EASE ROGERS OUT OF HIS JOB.

"EVERY TIME HE HAS BEEN ASKED ABOUT THE FUTURE, DR. KISSINGER HAS SAID HE IS VERY HAPPY IN HIS JOB," THE OFFICIAL SAID. "I AM CERTAIN THAT HE STILL IS."

ROGERS HAS REFUSED COMMENT AIRED FRIDAY BY THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS PRIVATELY DISCUSSED THE PROSPECT OF MOVING KISSINGER IN AS SECRETARY OF STATE. KISSINGER, MEANWHILE, HAS SAID: "THE PRESIDENT HAS NOT DISCUSSED THAT WITH ME."

BEECH, IN HIS STORY, QUOTED AN UNNAMED STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL AS SAYING: "HENRY WANTS THE JOB ALL RIGHT. BUT HE'S PROBABLY TELLING THE TRUTH WHEN HE SAYS THE PRESIDENT HASN'T DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH HIM. THE REASON IS THAT HENRY HASN'T HAD THE CUIS TO ASK NIXON FOR THE JOB."

"ONE REASON HE WANTS THE SECRETARY'S JOB IS TO GET OUT FROM UNDER THE SHADOW OF WATERGATE," THE OFFICIAL WAS QUOTED AS SAYING.

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UPI083

(KISSINGER)

CHICAGO (UPI) -- THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS QUOTED STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCES TODAY AS SAYING DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER HIMSELF WAS THE SOURCE OF REPORTS THAT KISSINGER WILL REPLACE WILLIAM ROGERS AS SECRETARY OF STATE.

THE NEWS STORY WAS WRITTEN BY KEYES BEECH FROM TOKYO, WHERE ROGERS IS ATTENDING A U.S.-JAPAN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE.

ROGERS HAS REFUSED COMMENT ON REPORTS OF KISSINGER'S TAKING HIS PLACE WHICH WERE AIRED FRIDAY BY THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM.

BEECH QUOTED A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL AS SAYING, "HENRY WANTS THE JOB, ALL RIGHT, BUT HE'S PROBABLY TELLING THE TRUTH WHEN HE SAYS THE PRESIDENT HASN'T DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH HIM. THE REASON IS THAT HENRY HASN'T HAD THE GUTS TO ASK NIXON FOR THE JOB."

"ONE REASON KISSINGER WANTS THE SECRETARY'S JOB IS TO GET OUT FROM UNDER THE SHADOW OF WATERGATE," A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WAS QUOTED AS SAYING.

THE NEWS STORY SAID STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCES ADMITTED THERE WAS A PERSONALITY CONFLICT BETWEEN ROGERS AND KISSINGER. THEY CREDITED HIM WITH DOING A GOOD JOB IN HIS MISSIONS FOR NIXON, BEECH WROTE, BUT ADDED MOST OF KISSINGER'S IDEAS HAD ORIGINATED WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

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THE SUN, Tuesday, July 17, 1973

Rogers revives Tokyo call for all-Pacific parley

By THOMAS PEPPER
Sun Staff Correspondent

Tokyo—William P. Rogers, the Secretary of State, completely surprised the Japanese government yesterday by endorsing one of its own proposals—a dusty, seven-month-old call for a general conference of Asian and Pacific countries.

The original proposal was made by Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka in an off-the-cuff speech on Osaka during last December's Japanese election campaign. In the speech, Mr. Tanaka mentioned the possibility of Japan's calling a multi-nation conference to help channel reconstruction aid to war-torn Indochina.

Cabinet meeting

He repeated the idea a month later, in his so-called "Diet Policy Speech," the Japanese equivalent of an American State-of-the-Union message. But here, too, Mr. Tanaka made the proposal in connection with reconstruction aid.

Nothing came of it until Mr. Rogers's remarks yesterday, during a keynote address at this week's joint United States and Japanese Cabinet meeting on trade and economic affairs.

And Mr. Rogers went well beyond the framework of a conference on aid to Indochina.

In endorsing Mr. Tanaka's proposal, the Secretary of State likened it to the recently held European security conference in Helsinki.

He said the U.S. had "noted with interest the suggestion of Prime Minister Tanaka to call a general conference of Asian and Pacific nations."

"Lowering of tensions"

"As we look ahead," Mr. Rogers said, "a conference aimed at developing the principles and mechanisms through which interested nations can promote peace co-operation, and the lowering of tensions in

the area could be most useful."

Sources close to the U.S. delegation, in attempting to explain Mr. Rogers's remarks, said he was trying to nudge the idea forward, if the Japanese government saw fit to nudge it forward, and if other Asian and Pacific nations thought such a broad-based conference was a good idea.

But Japanese officials clearly were surprised, somewhat bewildered and, in the words of one authoritative source, "even embarrassed" by Mr. Rogers's statement.

Kiyohiko Tsurumi, a deputy vice foreign minister and spokesman for the Japanese delegation, said that he and his colleagues had made no response to this portion of Mr. Rogers's address.

Kissinger policy substitute

Some officials said they thought the U.S. might simply be trying to make a courteous gesture toward Mr. Tanaka. Others took the endorsement seriously, but said they did not quite know what Mr. Rogers was driving at, or even what Mr. Tanaka had been driving at when he made the original proposal.

Judging by other parts of Mr. Rogers's lengthy opening statement—and by the comments of sources close to the U.S. delegation—one of the aims apparently was to offer a substitute set of policies to those advocated by Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's special assistant for national security affairs and his chief foreign policy adviser.

Influence buffer

Where Dr. Kissinger and others on the White House staff have often talked about a competitive relationship between Japan and the U.S.—calling Japan one of five poles of political power in the world, alongside the U.S., the Soviet Union, and Western Europe—Mr. Rogers's statement yesterday emphasized a co-operative relationship.



HENRY A. KISSINGER
... competition advocate

day emphasized a co-operative relationship.

The secretary appeared to be telling Japan that the U.S. would support a more active Japanese political role in Asia—but one that was in close harmony with the U.S.

At the same time, though only tacitly, Mr. Rogers appeared to be telling China and the smaller countries of East and Southeast Asia that such U.S.-Japanese harmony would act as a buffer against too much Japanese influence.

"Our alliance," Mr. Rogers said in speaking of U.S.-Japanese ties that have existed since the end of the allied occupation in 1952, "has been a critical element in the evolution of the more peaceful and more co-operative Asia, in which both our nations have a vital interest."

In terms of U.S. policy toward Asia, Mr. Rogers's brief endorsement of the Tanaka proposal potentially has vast implications—suggesting an ac-

tive U.S. role, by both government and private business, in co-operation with the Japanese government and Japanese businessmen, to promote continued economic growth throughout the Far East, including China.

European analogy

Eventually, according to this argument, the region would become much more of a single cultural unit than is the case now, and the analogy to Europe—and to the political benefits stemming from the Helsinki conference—would become clearer.

But attempts yesterday to determine whether Mr. Rogers's statement had the backing of the White House came to naught.

Sources close to the U.S. delegation said they would not comment on whether the secretary's speech had been cleared either by President Nixon himself, or by the National Security Council, meaning Dr. Kissinger.

All that was said publicly on this question was that a speech by the Secretary of State represents a considered statement of American views.

Privately, such sources said that Mr. Rogers's overture to Mr. Tanaka reflected the views of Japanese specialists in the State Department.

"Know more about Japan"

As one source put it, referring to Dr. Kissinger, "if you think we're saying we know more about Japan than the Germans, you're right."

American sources also noted that references in Mr. Rogers's speech to Dr. Kissinger's "Atlantic Charter" address of last April omitted that particular name for the ideas advocated in the address. This was apparently in response—at least in part—to Japanese objections to the word "Atlantic" used in reference to a grouping of industrialized countries, including Japan.

In another part of his speech—the portion devoted to energy—Mr. Rogers made a sweeping set of proposals that appear to advocate closer coordination with Japan than the energy proposals that so far have come out of the White House.

He said, for example, that the U.S. wants oil-importing nations, such as Japan and the

U.S., to share information on both private and governmental negotiations with the oil-producing nations, and that the administration is ready to encourage private American firms to consider joint ventures with Japanese companies in the development of new energy sources in Siberia and elsewhere.

Carrot-stick avoided

Basically, Mr. Rogers's statement took a hopeful view of U.S.-Japanese co-operation, and avoided the carrot-and-stick approach contained in the President's foreign policy report of last May.

This much seemed to be appreciated by Japanese officials, but at the same time, such officials stressed the specific context in which Mr. Tanaka's original Asian and Pacific conference idea had come up.

This was only with reference to aid to Indochina, they said, and even there, Japan would proceed slowly, step-by-step.

"We need time," one senior Foreign Ministry official said. A Grand Asian security conference, similar to the European equivalent, is still years away, he said—"maybe 10 years."

Even a conference on aid to Indochina is two to three years away, he argued, explaining that Japan intends first to establish diplomatic relations with North Vietnam, and then to increase its bilateral aid programs to both North and South Vietnam, and later on to step up aid to Cambodia, once the internal fighting there has ended.

Only after these steps, the official said, would Japan consider more grandiose ideas, such as Mr. Rogers apparently had in mind.

Surplus drop hailed

On other matters at yesterday's meeting, Masayoshi Ohira, the Japanese foreign minister, criticized the administration's recent curbs on agricultural exports, and urged the U.S. to avoid any moves toward trade protectionism. Japan, he said, finally had turned away from export promotion, and would continue to open up its economy even at the price of "various serious political as well as social difficulties."